Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 21 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Thursday 22 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 20 Dec 2022 at 10:17 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for unsettled showery theme for Wednesday and Thursday, but lower for the detail of worst of weather, also for the evolution to fairer weather from Friday with limited consensus between the main models.

Headline for Wednesday 21 Dec 2022: Showers or longer periods of snow and rain. Severe summit gales at first. Freezing level lifting.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 21 Dec 2022

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Gales
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Sleet	Sleet	Heavy rain showers (night)	Heavy rain showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
<05%	60%	80%	70%	60%	60%	40%	40%

Forecast for Wednesday 21 Dec 2022

Weather: Frequent showers or longer periods of snow and rain through to late morning, heavy at times in the west bringing the risk of hail and thunderstorms. This combined with gales and blizzards bring potentially hazardous conditions for higher peaks. Snow level 400-500m at first, gradually lifting from late morning and through the afternoon as showers ease a little and some limited brighter spells develop.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Initially 10% or less in west, 40% for east, becoming late afternoon 40% and 70% respectively

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain, very poor in snow, virtually nil within cloud with bases beginning extensive in west broken in east above 500m, before improving into the afternoon

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Wednesday 21 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	49/63 S	48/63 S	40/53 S	32/43 S	30/40 SW	27/38 SW	24/35 SW	21/31 W	17/25 SW
900	46/59 S	44/59 S	37/50 S	31/42 S	29/39 SW	26/37 SW	24/34 SW	21/30 W	17/25 SW
600	31/45 S	31/46 S	27/40 S	23/33 S	21/31 S	19/30 SW	16/26 SW	15/24 W	11/19 SW
300	10/41 S	10/44 S	8/37 S	8/29 S	8/29 SW	8/29 SW	6/24 SW	6/22 SW	4/17 SW
Glen	18/39 S	20/43 S	18/38 S	13/28 S	12/26 S	12/28 W	9/21 SW	7/17 W	4/12 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-2/-13	-2/-13	-2/-12	-1/-10	-0/-8	-0/-8	-0/-7	-0/-7	-1/-7
900	-2/-12	-2/-11	-1/-10	-0/-9	0/-7	0/-7	1/-6	1/-6	0/-6
600	1/-7	1/-7	1/-6	2/-5	2/-4	2/-3	3/-2	3/-2	2/-2
300	3/-1	2/-2	2/-1	3/-0	4/1	4/1	4/2	4/2	4/2
Glen	6/1	5/0	5/0	6/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/5	7/6
Freezing Level*	600m	600m	700m	900m	1000m	1000m	1100m	1100m	1100m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Potentially hazardous at first in west at height.

Forecast for Thursday 22 Dec 2022
Weather: Further showers though these quite isolated and light through the morning, before building from the north through the afternoon and evening. Snow level 800-900 m lowering 500m by evening.

Maximum wind: Variable 15mph or less

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80-90% for morning, becoming 20% from late afternoon

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain, very poor in snow, virtually nil within cloud with bases infrequently lowering 500m at first, becoming quite extensive later in day

Temperature: **Glens:** Minus 1 Celsius increasing 6 Celsius for afternoon
At 800m: Minus 2 Celsius lowering Minus 4 Celsius
Freezing level: 1000m lowering 700m

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